

“Put” Phrasal Verbs: Definitions

put (x) down: 1) to kill an animal that is sick or injured
2) to insult someone

- *We had to put down our pet dog because it was very old and suffering from cancer.*
 - *My girlfriend always puts me down in front of my friends. I don't think she respects me.*
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put (x) off: to postpone; to do something at a later time instead of doing it now

- *I should do some work now, but I guess I can put it off until tomorrow morning.*
 - *Do we need to go to the grocery store right now? Can't we put it off for another day or two?*
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put (x) out: 1) to disturb or ask a big favor of someone
2) to extinguish a fire (to put water on a fire until it is “out”)

- *I hope I'm not putting you out, but could I borrow your car this weekend?*
 - *If it's a problem to help me paint my house, don't worry about it. I don't want to put you out.*
 - *Luckily, my neighbor helped me put out the small fire, so my house didn't burn down.*
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put (x) up: to let someone stay in your house for a short period of time

- *Could you put me up for a couple days when I come visit you? Are you sure? I don't want to put you out...*
 - *James put me up in his spare bedroom while I was looking for an apartment that I could afford.*
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put up with: to tolerate something or someone that you don't really like

- *I don't know why you put up with your boyfriend. He treats you like you're his servant!*
 - *I can't put up with this stupid job anymore. I quit!*
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"Put" Phrasal Verbs: Review

Fill in the blanks with the correct words to complete these "put" phrasal verbs.

1. Patrick: I'm coming to visit you in Boston next month. Do you think you could _____ me _____ for a few days? I can't really afford a hotel.

Zack: Of course! That's what friends are for!

Patrick: Are you sure I won't be _____ you _____?

Zack: It's no problem at all.
2. Craig's brothers always make fun of him and _____ him _____, so he has low self-esteem.
3. I don't know how my parents _____ _____ me when I was a teenager. I was always yelling at them and sneaking out of the house. I must have driven them crazy!
4. Luckily, the firefighters were able to _____ _____ the fire before it got too big and completely destroyed the house.
5. We can't afford the surgery that our pet dog needs, so we might have to _____ him _____.
6. I'm too tired to finish my math homework tonight. I'll have to _____ it _____ until tomorrow before school.